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PP RUEHAG RUEHBI RUEHCI RUEHLH RUEHPW RUEHROV  
DE RUEHAH #0589 1281045  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 071045Z MAY 08  
FM AMEMBASSY ASHGABAT  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0766  
INFO RUCNCLS/ALL SOUTH AND CENTRAL ASIA COLLECTIVE  
RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE  
RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE  
RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 3746  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 1564  
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 1431  
RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL 2000  
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHDC  
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC  
RUCPDOG/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC  
RHMFISS/CDR USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC  
RUEHVEN/USMISSION USOSCE 2499

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASHGABAT 000589

SIPDIS

STATE FOR SCA/CEN, EEB  
STATE PLEASE PASS TO USTDA DAN STEIN  
COMMERCE FOR HUEPER  
TREASURY FOR BAKER/LANIER

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/07/2018

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SUBJECT: TURKMENISTAN: LARGEST TURKISH CONSTRUCTION COMPANY  
BRANCHES OUT TO ENERGY SECTOR

REF: 07 ASHGABAT 1064

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires a.i. Sylvia Reed Curran for reasons 1.  
4 (B) and (D).

11. (C) During a routine meeting on May 5 with the Planning Manager of the Turkish construction company, Polimeks (reftel), EconOff coincidentally met the Business Development Manager of the newly created Polimeks Energy Corporation, Deniz Tura. Tura said that Polimeks Energy is interested in forming joint ventures with U.S. companies in the energy sector, and is open to work on upstream, midstream, downstream projects -- depending on what is available -- including offshore. The company's team is in place; its General Manager is the former CEO of BP in Turkey. Company representatives have attended recent oil and gas conferences, including the April 17-18 "Oil and Gas in Turkmenistan" conference in London. Polimeks will market its new subsidiary as a local partner, building on its 15 years of experience in Turkmenistan. However, Tura said, as a company with Turkish roots, Polimeks Energy is international. At the end of the conversation, Tura added that "we have a good idea of what the government is interested in."

12. (SBU) COMMENT: With a growing number of foreign oil companies seeking to become involved in Turkmenistan, energy holds tremendous potential for profit and longevity in Turkmenistan. Following in the footsteps of Chalik Group -- and perhaps realizing that Turkmenistan's construction boom will some day come to an end -- Polimeks is making a strategic decision to diversify its business. While Polimeks has proven that it has a strong grasp of the Government of Turkmenistan's priorities, strict U.S. anti-bribery laws may inhibit partnership with U.S. firms. END COMMENT.  
CURRAN